

BRIDGESTONE Firestone

Oklahoma City Tire Manufacturing Facility

Best Practice Category:

Minimizing Waste To Landfill

Utilizing Waste Minimization and Recycling Programs

This program was developed to reduce material and waste disposal costs associated with the manufacturing process.

Our Process

- Identified all waste streams and their recovery or recycle potential
- Established waste material recovery operations to handle highest potential waste stream
- Tested program with one to two manufacturing waste streams.
- Developed continuous improvement program
- Established goals and waste reporting system to reinforce management support
- Formalized and staffed department to handle increased waste recovery operations
- Developed a list of potential materials to recycle and located potential vendors and uses for materials
- Established recycle operations and staff
- Developed and maintained visual records to communicate success that helped the program grow and aided in development of new recycling opportunities
- Publicized success showing cash received, landfill cost avoided, waste kept from landfill, etc
- Sent remaining waste to landfill and made a graph to display continuous reduction goals

Estimated Cost of Implementation:

- Included building a recycle area and associated equipment: \$150,000.

Lessons Learned

- New vendors for recycled materials had to be encouraged and supported until they were established.

Results Achieved

- Reduced Landfill Costs
- Recovered approximately 35% of component waste to re-use through waste reduction process
- Developed a recycle program

Success Factors

- Management support
- Communicate - Communicate - Communicate
- Continuous improvements in the waste reduction process and new vendors provide continuing opportunities for new uses for recycled waste materials

Advice for Starting a Similar Project:

- Develop a good start up plan.
- Have a success project from the start to develop the interest and gain support. Failure to communicate the success and gain support will reduce program effectiveness and future success.
- A manager of the program who is committed to the success makes the difference between success and failure.

Contact information

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- 1** Component wastes are transported to Material Recovery Department where components are cut down or reworked (Waste Minimization). Waste is returned to different component departments for use.
- 2** Excess not capable of rework is forwarded to Recycle Department.
- 3** Material is weighed and sorted for shipment to vendors [Recycle].
- 4** Wastes not capable of recycle is placed into containers for Landfill.

(Percentage of waste from this facility.)

Waste Cost Reduction

